

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

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This Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, including listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-66 (canceled).

Claim 67 (previously presented): A vector comprising a DNA sequence encoding a transcription factor, having the following elements in the 5' to 3' direction, i) a promoter, ii) DNA encoding a DNA binding domain of the bacterial repressor LexA, iii) DNA encoding a transactivating domain of VP16, iv) DNA encoding the regulatory domain of an estrogen receptor.

Claim 68 (currently amended): The vector of claim 67 wherein said vector further comprises a gene encoding a selectable marker ~~or a screenable marker~~, the expression of which is controlled by the transcription factor.

Claim 69 (currently amended): The vector of claim 68 wherein said gene is isopentenyltransferase (ipt), cytokinin-independent 1 (CKI1) ipt, CKI1, luciferase, a member of the *knotted* family, a gene the expression of which can promote shoot regeneration and development, or a gene the expression of which promotes somatic embryogenesis.

Claim 70 (previously presented): The vector of claim 67 wherein said vector further comprises one or more genes of interest.

Claim 71 (previously presented): The vector of claim 68 wherein said gene is a gene for antibiotic resistance.